

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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21 September 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Assistant to
Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Centralization of Orientation
and Briefing Services

REFERENCE : OTR Memorandum of 9 July and
DD/S Memorandum of 8 September
on above subject

1. Since 9 July when Mr. Baird wrote Colonel White about regularizing procedures for briefing various military service schools and other groups, there have been one or two significant developments touching on this problem. Also we have had a chance to study more carefully some of the collateral matters involved in centralizing such responsibilities. As a consequence, we are now strongly inclined toward trying to work this problem out on an informal basis--at least for the present. 25X1

2. To begin at the beginning--Mr. [REDACTED], OTR's Orientation and Briefing Officer, has for years been arranging presentations at some of the service schools and has conducted regular briefings for various groups of military personnel. He keeps records of the presentations he arranges and has built up informal notes on lectures by other Agency speakers which were arranged through separate channels. However, his notes on other speakers have not been complete because neither he nor anyone else has had any coordinating responsibility in this field. It was this situation in part which underlay Mr. Baird's July recommendation. 25X1

3. Responsibility for arranging VIP briefings also recently shifted from PPC to Mr. [REDACTED]. This move brought him into a much closer relationship to members of PPC who coordinate such matters for DD/P (and who incidentally supply many of the speakers to military groups). It has also drawn him closer on briefing matters

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to key points in DD/I and DD/S. As a result, he is now in a position to monitor pretty closely all of the appearances of CIA speakers before military groups. Hence the establishment of a "speakers bureau" and a point of record for Agency members who address outside groups has now pretty well taken place on an informal basis by recent alterations of Mr. [] job.

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4. We believe not only that Mr. [] can now accomplish the coordinating functions Mr. Baird and Colonel White had in mind but we think it much preferable that he do so on an informal basis rather than as a result of an Agency notice. This view is colored largely by OCR's role in connection with briefings for military and other non-CIA personnel. You will recall that OCR is the recognized point of contact for non-CIA officials to arrange briefings for individual attaches, FSO's, and other officers. A modus vivendi has been worked out between Mr. [] and OCR which is eminently satisfactory from both points of view. It would be very difficult to coordinate and publish a formal Agency notice on briefings which could tread the narrow line in this field between OCR and OTR. We would very much like to let time and experience ~~shake~~ down this relationship before any attempt is made formally to define it. Specifically, we are concerned that by designating Mr. [] as a central point for controlling Agency briefings we might invite OCR to off-load all or much of the work which they are now doing and which we believe properly should remain in DD/I.

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5. If you go along with these views, we would appreciate your counseling Colonel White to let the present situation lie for awhile and avoid the early issuance of a formal Agency notice on this subject.

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